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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/925,792	08/09/2001	Michael Eilersen	NN-6195.200 US	4215

7590 04/04/2005

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EXAMINER

KIM, AHSHIK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2876

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Period for Reply

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.

- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 December 2004.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-11 is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) 2, 12 and 13 is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Amendment

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the amendment filed on December 14, 2004 responding to
5 Quayle Action mailed on September 14, 2004. No claims were canceled, amended, or newly
added in the amendment. Currently, claims 1-13 remain for examination.

Priority

2. As acknowledged by the Applicant, Applicant is required to submit a certified copy of
10 the foreign priority papers to claim foreign priority.

Withdrawal of allowable subject matter

3. The indicated allowability of claims 1 and 3-11 are withdrawn in view of the newly
discovered reference(s) to Ohnuki. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.
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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the
basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- 20 (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on
sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1 and 3-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohnuki et
al. (US 4,693,574, hereinafter “Ohnuki”).

Art Unit: 2876

Re claims 1 and 5-11, Ohnuki discloses a cartridge 1 comprising electronically readable areas 41- 52 (see figure 1; col. 2, lines 37+; col. 2, lines 55+), a support for the cartridge 11a through which a plurality of electrically insulated conductors 61 and 67 convey the information captured from the readable area. The conductors 61 and 67 are connected to the contact area 21 (col. 5, lines 25+; col. 5, lines 62+).

Re claim 3, the apparatus body 11a-11h, constructed in durable plastic (or rubber) can be considered to an extent, an elastic material.

Re claim 4, the connecting area 21 is a flexible circuit board

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Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 3, 12 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for indicating allowable subject matter: the claims are directed at an electronic marking of cartridges or similar containers. The cartridge includes an electronically readable item of information disposed in a first form and in a redundant form. The invention relates specifically to a support used with the cartridge mentioned above. The support member is comprised of a number of closely spaced mutually electrically insulated conductors embedded in an electrically insulating materials. The cartridges and the contact areas of the support member contact to transfer information. It is the Examiner's view that this cartridge and support member is disclosed in Ohnuki reference. However, the

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Art Unit: 2876

cited reference fails to disclose maximum thickness for the insulator and conducting material as set forth in the claims.

Conclusion

5 I. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Kovelma (US 6,110,152) disclose cartridge comprising information source. Applicant is respectfully suggested to carefully review these references.

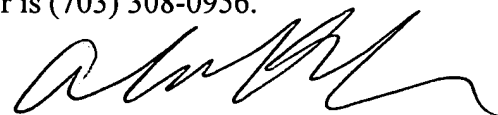
10 II. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Ahshik Kim* whose telephone number is (571)272-2393. The examiner can normally be reached between the hours of 6:00AM to 3:00PM Monday thru Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee, can be reached on (571)272-2398. The fax number directly to the Examiner is (571)273-2393. The fax phone number for this Group is (703)872-9306.

15 Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [ahshik.kim@uspto.gov].

20 *All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.*

25 Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Ahshik Kim
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2876
March 23, 2005

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